Ministers, the priorities and parameters which they have for allocating new stations also change with them. Because I remember that the Minister holding the portfolio at that time had categorically stated that Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh were technically sound for starting a second channel. But suddenly now I find that the priorities have changed and Calcutta has come in in their place I have nothing against Calcutta getting a second channel. I wsh the whole country gets a second channel Regarding the available stations of doordarshan, repeately the other media have emhasised and people have said that nothing that ever happens on the national level is being informed to the country by Doordarshan. As you all are aware, recently the sati incident took place in Rajasthan. That was the time that we should have taken the opportunity and Raja Ram Mohan Roy's message should have been flashed and incidents of this kind should have been shown so that the people would have risen in revolt against sati and such other types of social evils. The whole nation was sluggish in reacting to the sati incident simply because we are not using the media at the optimum level. And this also goes for the Andhra Pradesh debacle when you were kind enough to come as Governor.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: All these suggestions are well noted.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: What suggestions?

SHRI AJIT PANJA: There was no question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She raised a pointed question about the sati incident.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I asked about the secnd channel for Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: So far as the assurance of my predecessor is concerned, so far as I have been record, no such assurance is pending.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She also asked about sati.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Regarding the sati incident, we have given the programme. But we cannot start a programme to enthuse the people in a particular action. Sir, the object of television is to see that the people's voice is carried. Whenever the people's voice was raised, we have carried it. Thehe were several programmes denouncing sati in no uncertain terms. Probably the hon. Member missed it.

MR CHAIRMAN: We have already taken half an hour. Let us go to the next question.

Death of Livestock in Gujarat

*102. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tens of thousands of cattle died at Abdasa and Lackhpati in Gujarat because of the acute drought situation prevailing in the area; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to save the livestock there by providing drinking water and fodder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The State Government have made arrangements for supply of fodder. Cattle camps have been organised and provision for drinking water has been made. Arrangements for supply of cattle feeds have also been made by the State Government.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is surprising to hear the Hon. Minister say that cattle have not died in Abdasa and Lackhpatt of Kutch district in Gujarat because of the acute drought situation

prevailing there. Sir, I would like to say that in the fourth successive year there is drought in Gujarat. Apart from that, in the two talukas of Abdasa and Lakhpatt, which I mentioned, out of 5.8 lakh sheep that are there, 60,000 have already died due to drought conditions and want of water and fodder and another 90,000 were at the stage of dying due to starvation. But the hon. Minister says that the cattle are not dying. Sir, here is a report that the owners of these cows and buffaloes have deserted their cattle in the marshy land and gone away, because they were not in a position to see cattle dying in their presence. But a different information is being furnished by the Minister now. Does the Minister still maintain the very same stand that cattle have not died due to drought in Gujarat especially in the two talukas of Kutch district?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, the hon. Member is surprised only because he is going by the press report. He never considers the report of the State Government which has said that there is no death of cattle due to shortage of fodder or drinking water. They have reported that 89 useful cattle died on September 1987 in Lackhpatt taluk due to food poisoning and not due to shortage of fodder. I have a report with me from the State Government which states that in Abdasa taluk they have so far supplied 52.27 lakh kg. of grass from 15 grass depots during the month of September and October. Same is the case with Lackhpatt taluk where they have supplied 45.91 lakh kg. of grass from 13 grass depots. In Abdasa there are 13 cattle camps and there are 19,346 cattle whereas in Lackhpatt taluk, there are 4 cattle camps having 11,494 cattle in those camps. So, question of cattle having died due to want of fodder and water does not arise.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Hon. Minister is giving figures about the cattle camps which have been organised. I would like to know, because there is drought in Gujarat, wherefrom grass and fodder had come to Gujarat and what is the assistance provided by Central Government because State Government is suffering due to cattle deaths. What is the total amount of assistance given by the Central Government, especially for Kutch to save the cattle. Information given to me is that only 10 per cent of cattle will survive if the present condition continues.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The State Government submitted their first memorandum for Rs. 187 crores and we have given more than Rs. 64 crore which is the ceiling of expenditure, upto the month of September. The State Government submitted another memorandum also which is under consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When did the memorandum come for September?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: It was up to September only, and we have given them something. After October, they have submitted another memorandum whihc is under consideration. The procedure is that some State Governments submit memorandum in part; some submit up to the post and pre-monsoon period of 1987-88. The State Government submitted memorandum up to 30th September 1987 and, therefore, ceiling of expenditure is approved to that date. For the next period, they have already submitted a memorandum which is under consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When do you expect to finalise it?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Team has already visited and we are expecting their report. After that, it will go to the High Level Committee on Relief and then it will be sanctioned.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: By that time, all the cattle will die.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: It is surprising that the Minister denied cattle deaths in Gujarat.

According to our report, there are some social organisations, like Sarva Sewa Sangh which are doing tremendous work. About 32 camps have been opened by them. I would like to know whether such camps are organised by State Government or the Central Government and if so, what are those camps? It has also been reported that hon. Minister Shri Dhillon also visited these camps and was satisfied with the arrangements made Sarva Seva Sangh in those camps. Thousands of cattle are being attended to there. But the drought situation in Kutch in Gujarat, is very severe as a result of which so many cattle deaths have occurred. There are reports in the brochure taken out by Sarva Seva Sangh. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the State Government also has been organising such camps, and if so, what are those camps and how many cattle have been put there and whether any social organisations, like the Sarva Sewa Sangh, have undertaken similar work. I would like to know whether the Government is going to provide funds to this Sarva Seva Sangh organisation to run these camps.

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: Sir, since he mentioned about my visit to Gujarat, I thought I should make the position clear. In September, I visited almost all the drought-stricken areas of Gujarat, particularly, Kutch, Banaskantha and parts of Mehsana Districts. The State Government had given the report about the death of cattle I verified and I can assure the hon. Member. I visited all the villages. I travelled all through by car. At no village nowwhere, did anybody tell me that there have been death of the cattle. I did not come across any complaint. The pamphlet or the document which the hon. Member has displayed...

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: I am asking you whether the Government is thinking of providing assistance to the Sarva Seva Sangh in running these camps.

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: I visited both the camps, those run by the Sarva Seva Sangh as well as those by the Government. There were 5,000 cattle in one particular camp. I was highly impressed with the service being rendered by the Sarva Seva Sangh in Kutch. I also visited camps run by other voluntary organisations; for example, in Rajasthan, by the Marwari Society and others. But I found the best work was being done by the Sarva Seva Sangh. I agree with that. Even they showed me only two emaciated cows which they said have come from some distance and that they will be okay within a short period. No corpse, no dead cattle, was shown to me anywhere. The hon. Member can rest assured.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Virendra Verma.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Sir, my question has not been answered, whether the Government is giving assistance to this organisation in running these camps.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot ask four-five questions. I have already called Shri Virendra Verma. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: If only the figure is required I can point out that the aid given is Rs. 3.50 per cattle head. But after visiting these camps in Rajasthan as well as in Gujarat, I was of the opinion that this was not adequate. Sir, we will be increasing the support given by the Government in respect of these camps. This is a long statement. I can send it to the hon. Member, Otherwise, I will be taking the time of the House.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Sir, my question has not been answered. (*Interruptions*)

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी मुझ से सहमत होंगे कि गुजरात में पिछले चार वर्षों में भयंकर सूखा पड़ा है और जब सूखा पड़ा है तो उससे फीडर और पानी की भी भारी कमी हुई है । मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में बताया कि फीडर के लिये उन्होंने ज्यादा रुपये का प्रोवाइड किये हैं और इसके लिये ये ये कार्य किये हैं । तो मेरे प्रश्न का पहला पार्ट है कि क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जानवरों के लिये ड्रिंकिंग वाटर की क्या स्पैसिफिक व्यवस्था उन्होंने पिछले चार सालों में की है ? मैं ड्रिंकिंग वाटर भी कह रहा हूं, स्पैसिफिक कह रहा हूं । मान्यवर, क्वेश्चन भी है, उसमें नहीं बताया क्या स्पेसिफिक इन्होंने स्टेप उठाए हैं । दूसरा, यह कि बावजूद सरकार की कोशिशों के, बावजूद आर्गेनाइजेशन के केंप लगाने यह के क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को जानकारी है कि गुजरात से, राजस्थान से सूखे और पशु-आहार की भारी कमी के कारण उत्तर प्रदेश में, पंजाब में और हरियाणा में पशु वहां से माइग्रेट कर रहें है, पहुंच रहे हैं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाणा : जहां तक एक्शन की बात है, बहुत से एक्शन लिए गए हैं ।

Government has taken a number of actions and I would like to list them for the benefit of the hon. Member. No. 1, distribution of fodder.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, पहले पानी का बताइए ।

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: For water we have already given an amount of Rs. 158.17 crores to the State Governments this includes the provision for drinking water for men and animals also.

So far as the action taken for the preservation of the cattle wealth by the State Government...

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, मैंने पीने के पानी की स्पेसिफिक व्यवस्था का पूछा है ।

श्री सभापति : यह व्यवस्था पूछ रहे है, पैसे नहीं पूछ रहे ।

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: That I have already replied him.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : उन्होंने कुछ किया है वह बता दें ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, the Government of India is providing fund to the State Governments. They have to do the execution of relief works, they have to make arrangements for carrying water in trucks etc. Wherever it is possible, they lay pipelines and provide water. The State Government has made provision for the cattle also in cattle camps and in other places. For distribution of fodder we have opened grass depots. Incentive is given to voluntary agencies engaged in the maintenance of cattle. We have opened on 7.11.87 40 pinjrapoles and gaushalas that are maintaining 57598 cattle, and 121 cattle camps were set up... .

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मैं मान रहा हूं... (**व्यवधान**)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: If you do not want it, I will not give. I do not know how I can satisfy the hon. Member. A number of actions are taken and I do not remember all of them orally. Since you have asked it, I have to give the information. The State Government gives a subsidy of Rs. 2.25 per day per cattle for maintaining them in pinjrapoles and gaushalas and Rs. 3.50 per day is given...

श्री सभापति : क्या बहुत बड़ा जवाब है ?

श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाणा : जितना एक्शन लिया है बहुत लंबा नहीं है । लेकिन यह लंबा पूछते हैं तो लंबा बोलना पड़ेगा ।

Five hundred metric tonne bhusa has been sent to Kutch districts. Let me clarify that this question pertains

to Kutch, particularly to Abdasa and Lackhpatt districts of Gujarat. So, I am giving the information to the hon. Member.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, मैं सहमत हूं, जो इन्होंने किया सब सहमत । लेकिन मैं उनसे यह नहीं पूछ रहा हूं । मान्यवर, जो इन्होंने किया, सहमत हूं ...(**व्यवधान**)

श्री सभापति : सहमत है तो बैठ जाइए ।

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : लेकिन मेरा स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन यह कि...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति : नहीं-नहीं, सवाल यह है कि ...(**व्यवधान**)...आप बुजुर्ग आदमी हैं, किसी मंत्री को फोर्स नहीं कर सकते कि इस तरह से जवाब दें । उन्होंने जो कहना था, वह दिया और सबने समझ लिया...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाणा : नहीं-नहीं, उसका सवाल ही ठीक नहीं है ।

श्री सभापति : यह बाहर बैठकर बात कर लेना । यह आप लाबी में बात कर लेना ।

श्री जी० एस० ढिल्लों : चेयरमैन साहब, मेरा ख्याल है कि एक बुजुर्ग आदमी दूसरे बुजुर्ग की तसल्ली करा सकता है । तो मैं जिस गांव में गया, जहां भी गया, जहां पाइप-लाइन या ट्रांसपोर्ट टैंकर से पानी दिया जाता है, खास हिदायत वहां है कि जो पानी दिया जायगा, आम ग्रामवासियों को दिया जायगा, उसमें कैटल का भी हिस्सा है और मैंने उसमें कैटल का अलहदा पानी देते देखा है, जहां भी मैं गया । ....(**व्यवधान**)... मेरा जवाब लम्बा नहीं है (**व्यवधान**) कहीं कोई पानी की तकलीफ नहीं है जहां इन्होंने यह सुना हो कि पानी नहीं पहुंचा तो वह हमें बतायें हम जरूर कार्यवाही करेंगे । (**व्यवधान**)

श्री सभापति : आप पानी वहां पहुंचा देंगे ।

श्री भजन लाल : चेयरमैन साहब मैं ड्राउट का गुजरात क्षेत्र का इन्चार्ज हूं (**व्यवधान**) मैं माननीय सदस्य की तसल्ली करा सकता हूं (**व्यवधान**)

श्री सभापति : नहीं आप रहने दीजिये । जब पर्यावरण का सवाल पूछेंगे तब बताइयेगा ।

SHRI ARUN SINGH: Sir, as I understand it, the hon. Ministers in the Ministry of Agriculture have informed the House basically of three pieces of information: first, that no cattle have died; second, that the State Government says that no cattle have died; and third, the hon. Minister himself has said that during his tour, nobody reported to him that the cattle have died. I am constrained to say that I am appalled because everybody in India knows that there has been a massive death of cattle in Gujarat. I am sorry to say that it is quite possible that the hon. Ministers in the Ministry of Agriculture are not in the picture. This speaks volumes for the follow-up of the Ministry of Agriculture. But since this is a matter to be handled by the State Government, it is entirely possible that the State Government has not informed the Ministry of Agriculture. Nonetheless, considering the very massive and solid work done by a number of voluntary agencies in Gujarat during the last few months, specifically to save the cattle from dying, and considering the fact that there are literally hundreds of people who have worked on this project day and night, giving their time and resources of voluntary agencies to do this, I do believe that it would be more appropriate if the Ministers were to say that to the best of their

information, no cattle have died. May I, therefore, ask the hon. Ministers whether the statement that no cattle have died is a statement based on the best of their information, or whether this is a categorical statement?

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: Sir, the Member should have known that whatever the Minister says is categorical. There is no reservation there. Not only, Sir, there is the report of the State Government, but we went on the scene. Shri Bhajan Lal was also there. All of us went *to various places.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: When did you visit? And what happened after that? Can you be categorical about that?

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: I can categorically say that the State Government did not send any report about the death of cattle. They did not support it. We went through the villages by road, by car, but nothing of that information.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: When was it?

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: In September

MR. CHAIRMAN: So two months have passed. Naturally your information is based on the information you got from the State Government.

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: No, Sir, I would like to have the information from the hon. Member wherefrom he got this information. He could tell me in which village in which area it has happened. I am prepared to go there tomorrow even during the session of Parliament.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the Ministers are quite open and hon. Members can inform them and they are willing to be corrected.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, what has happened is that a report appeared in the *Indian Express*. Based on the report of the *Indian Express*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: No, it came in the *Hindustan Times* also.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: ...they have raised this question. Sir, the information we supply is the information given by the State Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But now as the hon. Members are giving the information you can get the whole thing examined.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The State Government supplies us the information and it is based on the information supplied by the State Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is correct, but if Members give you some more information, you get the whole thing examined.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Mr. Chairman, Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not called you.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You have not called me, but I want to draw your attention to a specific question. Here the hon. Member has given the information. My difficulty is, hon. Members are only reading the newspapers. Honourable Members are only reading newspapers, whether *Indian Express* or any other *Express*. The point is, we depend for our news, on actual facts—what we see in our States. So, how can the honourable Minister claim that we are wrong and only they are right? This is a difficult position. Sir, you have to uphold our rights, not only the Ministers' rights.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I have said. It is something in which Members are interested, the Government is interested. The truth should be known, when the cattle died... (*Interruptions*)...

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : हम लोग अभी दौरा करके आये हैं। अपनी आंखों से स्थिति देखकर आये हैं।

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी : रोज हजारों पशु मर रहे हैं।

श्री सभापति : आप जो भी हो वह बतायें इसमे कोई छिपाने की बात नही हो सकती है। केटल मर रहे हैं। So it is a worry for the Government. Why are you so agitated?

श्री मीर्जा इर्शादबेग : गुजरात मैम्बर्स को भी चांस दीजिए।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Send a Members' delegation to study on the spot. We are not speaking lies. We are bringing facts and we know. You send your officers—we don't mind But satisfy yourself. We are concerned with the people. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, only five minutes are left and Members from Gujarat have raised their hands to put questions. Kindly permit us to ask questions.

श्री जगदंबी प्रसाद यादव : 56 लाख भेड़ों में से 60 हजार भेड़े मर चुकी हैं कच्छ डिस्ट्रिक्ट मे जिसकी बात चल रही है और 90 हजार आन द वर्ज आफ डाइंग हैं। यह एक प्रकार के कैटल की ही स्थिति है। मुझे लगता है कि मंत्री जी खेड़ा डिस्ट्रिक्ट की ही स्थिति देखकर उसका वर्णन कर रहे हैं। मैं मूल सवाल उठाना चाहता हूं कि कच्छ डिस्ट्रिक्ट का ही हिसाब लें तो उनके सभी प्रकार के जानवरों की मौत की संख्या क्या है, एक और छोटा सा सवाल है श्रीमन, कि योजना में पशुओं के संरक्षण के लिए, पशुओं के पालन के लिए, सूखे और बाढ़ में कौन सी व्यवस्था है ? आज तक उसकी व्यवस्था नहीं है।

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, whether I belong to Khera district or Kutch district, it matters little. I have to see the State as a whole. The State Government has supplied me the information and whatever reply we give in the House is based on the information of the State Government. We have no information of our own...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति : जांच कराने को तैयार नही हैं आप ? सवाल यह है कि अगर वे बताते हैं तो आप जाच कराएंगे कि नही ?

श्री योगेंद्र मकवाणा : मैं यह भी कह रहा हूं कि मै उनकी जो बात है उसके लिए स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से पूछूगा। We will ask the State Government for whatever information they have.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, the Ministry has sent its own officer. You haven't got any information...(*Interruptions*)... You go to the State, your officer visit the State.....(*Interruptions*)... Sir, The ministry has sent its own officer to assess, and we haven't got any information.

श्री सभापति : देखिए कुछ गुजरातियों को बोलने दीजिए।

श्री मीर्जा इर्शादबेग : मंत्री जी ने यह कहा है कि वे राज्य सरकार से इसकी इन्फारमेशन मंगवायेंगे। लेकिन राज्य सरकार ने वहां के पशुओं को बचाने के लिए जो घास का आयोजन किया है, बाहर से लाने के लिए, उसके लिए केन्द्र सरकार को उन्होंने जो याचना और विनती की है उसकी तरफ मैं आपके माध्यम से उनका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। उनके लिए घास का प्रयोजन उन्होंने पंजाब से किय है लेकिन पंजाब के उन स्टेशनो का नोटीफिकेशन अभी तक नहीं हुआ है। तो मैं मंत्री जी से यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि उसका नोटीफिकेशन त्वरित गति से हो ता कि वहा जल्दी से घास आ सके।

दूसरा मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा घास के लिए ट्रांसपोर्टेशन के जो चार्जेज हैं, बाहर से लाने के लिए उसमें 75 परसेंट का रीइम्बर्समेंट दिया जाता है, अगर इनको स्टेट के अन्दर दिया जाता है तो 50 परसेंट दिया जाता है। मान्यवर, राज्य सरकार ने सौ प्रतिशत की डिमांड केन्द्र सरकार से की है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि वह इस दिशा में क्या कदम लेने जा रहे है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Considering the importance of the question, we can have a half-an-hour discussion. That is what I was saying. You were not hearing.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: On Monday there is a discussion.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा . सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी का उत्तर तो आपने देख लिया कि क्या दे रहे है और गुजरात स्टेट के माननीय सदस्य क्या कह रहे हैं यह भी देख लिया ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

Damage caused by floods in West Bengal

*103. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss in West Bengal due to the devastating floods during the period from August to October 1987;

(b) what are the details of the losses;

(c) the total assistance asked for by the West Bengal Government from the Centre for flood relief and reconstruction;

(d) the total assistance promised by the Centre; and

(e) the amount disbursed by the Centre to the State till date?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) and (b) The value of damages to public and private property reported by the State Government is Rs. 439.93 crores, besides the loss of 156 human lives and 1391 heads of cattle. The details of the losses is as under.—

Item	(Rs. in crore)
1. Value of crops damage	244.22
2. Value of cattle lost	0.20
3. Value of Houses damaged	122.22
4. Damages of fishermen.	9.86
5. Public Health	3 75
6. Panchayat and Community Development Centre	10 26
7. Public Health Engineering Department	1.80
8. Public Works Department	23 15
9. Irrigation	16 69
10. School Building	7.03
11. Forest	0 48
TOTAL	439.93